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Report of the committee to
whom was referred the
petition of sundry
1816.

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REPORT

*Of the Committee to whom was referred the Petition
of sundry inhabitants of Connecticut, on behalf of
the widow and children of Charles Dolph, deceased.*

7th February, 1816.

Read and ordered to be printed.

The committee to whom was referred the petition
of sundry inhabitants of the State of Connecticut,

REPORT...

That the following facts, as stated in the petition, are supported by the testimony submitted. That on the 15th day of January, 1815, a boat from the British privateer Rover, captured two American vessels, a sloop and schooner, laden with flour and cotton, in Long-Island Sound, about two miles from Saybrook light-house. That the petitioners, fifteen in number, together with Charles Dolph, of said Saybrook, volunteered their services, manned two boats, and went out in pursuit of the prizes, both of which they recaptured, killed the lieutenant of the privateer, took five prisoners and brought the whole safe into port, and delivered the prisoners over to the mar-

shal of the district of Connecticut at New-London. That in the conflict, which was severe, the said Charles Dolph was killed by a musket ball shot through his head. That he was a very respectable and industrious citizen, and has left a wife, with eight young children, destitute of property, or any means of support.

The petitioners relinquish all claims in their own behalf, and pray that the bounty allowed by law to the owners, officers, and crews of the private armed vessels of the United States, commissioned as letters of marque, may be granted to the widow of the said Charles Dolph, for the support of herself, and her orphan children.

Your committee are of opinion that the foregoing case, especially as the United States were enabled for the five prisoners thus captured, to receive five of their own in exchange, presents a strong claim on the equity of this government; and that both *policy* and *justice* require that the prayer of the petition should be granted. And accordingly report a bill.

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